

**Developmental Disabilities Council
Community Supports & Services Workgroup
October 17, 2013
Draft Minutes**

Location: Yakima Holiday Inn

Members Present:

Rachel Nemhauser (Workgroup Chair), George Adams, Josh Cutler, Leo Finnegan, Laurene Rusing, Diana Zottman, Janet Adams, Sherrie Brown, Avreayl Jacobson, and Carol Miller

Staff: Eva Rooks (lead), Laurie Bahr, Crystal Diemert, and David Maltman

Guests: Larissa Lavallee, DDC Intern

Call to Order/Introductions

Workgroup Chair Rachel Nemhauser called the meeting to order and roll was taken.

Agenda Item: Re-Think the Real Communities Initiative, David Maltman

David spoke on what he learned from the RFQQ and the problems with the scoring process. He also proposed a new approach to address the DDC Goals and Objectives in the State Plan for Community Inclusion. In his opinion, the way the RFP was written before made it difficult for organizations (especially those who were outside the traditional DD system) to know about and apply for the funding because of the organizational capacity that would have been required to apply. Instead David shared a revised proposal for a Community Inclusion Brokerage. The Contract would pay for a contractor to: identify and report on best practice for including people with DD in the community, educate people with DD, their families and the organizations that serve them in techniques for improving community inclusion and provide technical assistance and resource to DD organizations. (Year 1) The contractor would recognize leaders in inclusion and then organizations would be selected for funding (via the contractor) to do community inclusion activities. (Year 2 & 3) After the community inclusion activities are completed, the contractor will provide a report to the workgroup about what has been learned. (Year 3)

Discussion:

Janet Adams suggested formally tying this together with the Communities of practice to boost those efforts. Whoever gets this contract would be expected to work together with the Communities of Practice as well as the Community Services and Supports Workgroup.

Group members expressed concern about being sure that we will get value out of the project. David clarified that as part of the project the broker will carry out the contracting with individual organizations for the project, and since the broker will have knowledge of best practice, it would be more likely that performing candidates would be funded.

MOTION: Member Leo Finnegan made a motion that we vote on the revised RFQQ as amended and member George Adams seconded. The added amendments were made as follows:

1. Direct the contractor to ensure that project funding be distributed among four distinct populations:
 - a. Organizations that have not engaged in community inclusion activities before
 - b. Organizations with limited resources to engage in community inclusion activities, but with some experience in these activities
 - c. Organizations that operate community inclusion activities in areas where services and supports are limited and
 - d. Organizations conducting community inclusion activities that want to expand their programs.
2. Include collaboration with the Community of Practice project as part of the contractor's requirements.

VOTE: Motions passed unanimously (as amended)

Agenda Item: Overview of Work Group responsibilities and Activities

Eva reviewed the Work Group's Big Picture Work Plan (which also served as a means of conveying the Work Group's responsibilities), to identify areas that the group needed additional information on or wanted to address in the coming year. Areas of focus were identified to the next two meetings and Eva will provide an amended work plan at the next Work Group meeting.

Next Meeting Agenda

- Staff report on contract for Community Inclusion
- Discussion on housing for people with developmental disabilities who are currently living with aging caregivers
- Community of Practice Update

The Work Group meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.